LAKE BLUFF PUBLIC LIBRARY

SUMMER 2026

off the SHELF

Dive Into Reading!

Summer Reading Club

Summer Reading Club

Dive Into Reading!

Youth: 6/1 – 7/31 | Adult and Teen: 6/1 – 8/15

Ready to dive in? Explore oceans of stories, log your reading, and complete activities to unlock rewards and prizes all summer long. Sponsored by the Friends of the Lake Bluff Library.

Log Your Reading

Readers of all ages can record their activities using a printed log (pick one up at the Library or download one at LakeBluffLibrary.org/SRC) or log activities online at LakeBluffLibrary.Beanstack.com. All reading counts—books in any format, including reading aloud to someone else.

Complete the Challenge

Adult and Teen (Entering Grade 9 – Adult)

Read a book, attend a program, or support a local business to complete activities. Earn a gift card when you complete 5 activities, and collect a raffle ticket for each one—up to 25 entries.

Youth (Birth – Entering Grade 8)

Every 10 days of reading earns a prize. Reach 30 days to receive a finisher's packet with a book of your choice and other fun items—and keep going for bonus prizes at 40, 50, and 60 days.

SCAN ME!

Make a Splash at the Library

Drop in all summer long for themed activities and challenges for all ages:

Sea Quests

6/8 – 8/1 | All Ages

Visit the Library each week to take on a new quest. Complete it to win a prize and earn a ticket for our weekly raffle. Raffle winners can choose their prize from the treasure chest!

Guess How Many

6/1 – 6/30 | Ages 2 – 13

Guess how many items are in the jar at the Youth Services Desk for your chance to win a prize. You can submit one guess per day, so make it count!

Seek and Find

7/1 – 7/31 | Ages 2 – 13

Older kids can search the Youth Services Department for the Hidden Book. When they find it, they can bring it to staff at the Youth Services Desk and receive a special prize. In the preschool room, younger kids will search for Bluey and her family. When they see a member of Bluey's family, they can tell the staff at the Youth Desk and get a special prize.

PrideFest with the Library at Round Lake Beach Cultural & Civic Center
2007 N Civic Center Way, Round Lake Beach, IL
6/20 from 12pm - 8pm
All Ages

Visit the Library at Lake County PrideFest! This family-friendly festival celebrates LGBTQIA+ life and culture with food trucks, vendors, live music, drag shows, and activities for all ages. Stop by the Library booth to make a scratchboard bookmark, spin our prize wheel for fun giveaways, and enter a raffle for a $50 gift card to Lake Forest Bookstore.

March with Us in the Parade!
7/4 at 8am | All Ages

Spark some fun this Fourth of July and march with us in the Lake Bluff 4th of July Parade! Show your Library spirit and be part of the celebration. Volunteers will receive a FREE Library t-shirt, enjoy a volunteer breakfast before the parade, and cool down with refreshments afterward at the Library. Teens can also earn volunteer hours. To sign up, contact Jillian Chapman at **jchapman@lakeblufflibrary.org**. *Supplies for the Library's parade entry are funded by the Friends of the Lake Bluff Library.*

Family Movie Night R
at Gorton Community Center
400 E. Illinois Rd., Lake Forest, IL
8/14 at 7pmAll Ages

The Lake Bluff Library is excited to partner once again with Gorton Community Center for a FREE screening of *Wreck-It Ralph*! Get ready for a night of arcade-sized fun, unlikely heroes, and saving the day in the most unexpected ways! *Sponsored by the Friends of Lake Bluff Library.*

Neighbor Spotlight:

Sherri Duskey Rinker R
at Lake Forest Library
360 E. Deerpath Rd., Lake Forest, IL
7/29 - All Day Event
All Ages

Spend the day with author Sherri Duskey Rinker. Register for a 10:00am storytime, a 3:00pm Meet the Author event for young readers and writers, or a 6:30pm workshop for aspiring children's book authors.

R = Registration Required V = Virtual
All programs are in person at the Library unless otherwise stated.

Resource Spotlight: The New York Times

All Access

Staring in June, Lake Bluff cardholders can access the full suite of New York Times publications from the Library or from home! This resource includes access to news, games, cooking, and the Athletic! Visit our website or talk to a librarian to get started.

Inside the Obama Presidential Center R V
6/11 at 7pm
Join us for a virtual presentation about the Barack Obama Presidential Library and the Obama Presidential Center. Speakers Kenvi Phillips and Tina Tchen will discuss the nation's first fully digital presidential library and how the Center will serve as a community hub on Chicago's South Side. Learn how presidential records are preserved and how the Center will share President Barack Obama's legacy while promoting civic engagement and democratic values.

DIY Kit: Pride Candles
6/15 | While Supplies Last
Adults can pick up a take-home craft kit with pre-measured supplies to celebrate Pride Month by creating your own Pride flag candle at home!

Afternoon Book Club
6/16, 7/21, 8/18 at 2:30pm
Join Carol at the Library for an insightful monthly book discussion series:

June - *Let's Call Her Barbie* by Renée Rosen
July - *Big Stone Gap* by Adriana Trigiani
August - *More or Less Maddy* by Lisa Genova

SafeZone Training R V
6/23 at 6pm
LGBTQ+ Center Lake County works to make Lake County a place where LGBTQIA+ people and their families can thrive. SafeZone Training is the Center's introductory program that explores LGBTQIA+ identities, inclusive language, and ways to create safer, more welcoming spaces for everyone.

Evening Book Club
7/9 at 6pm
Spend a summer evening with us discussing *The Guncle* by Steven Rowley, a witty and touching work of contemporary fiction perfect for lively conversation.

W.F.K. Travers' Lincoln Portrait R V
7/15 at 6pm
Art historian Mallory Mortillaro shares the fascinating story of a nine-foot-tall portrait of Abraham Lincoln. Drawing on her firsthand research, she reveals how the painting traveled from prominent exhibitions, including the United States Capitol and the Centennial Exposition, to its long-time home at the Hartley Dodge Memorial. Now on loan to the National Portrait Gallery, the portrait's remarkable journey offers new insight into Lincoln's legacy and the power of rediscovery.

Tea Dueling R
7/16 at 6pm
Step into the spirited tradition of tea dueling—where competitors race to dunk and devour biscuits before they crumble! Sample a variety of teas at this playful, flavorful gathering for tea lovers and curious newcomers alike.

Betsy Ross R
7/23 at 6pm
In her captivating portrayal of Betsy Ross, historical presenter Michelle Gibbons brings to life the spirited seamstress credited with creating the first American flag. Gibbons embodies Ross' determination and patriotism, recounting her pivotal role in stitching together a symbol of unity for the fledgling nation. Through engaging storytelling, she

R = Registration Required V = Virtual
All programs are in person at the Library unless otherwise stated.

highlights Ross' contributions during the Revolutionary era, emphasizing the flag's enduring significance as a beacon of freedom.

Family Bingo Night R
7/30 at 6pm
All Ages
Bring your family and friends to the Library for Bingo Night! We'll have fun prizes for all ages.

Passwords, Passkeys, and Password Managers R V
8/6 from 6pm – 7:30pm
We've all heard we should use strong, unique passwords, but how are you supposed to keep track of them all? In this session, you'll explore simple ways to stay safe online, including how password managers and passkeys can help you ditch the sticky notes and take control of your digital security.

Electronics Recycling Drive
8/19 - 8/22
Have old or broken technology you no longer need? Donate it to be refurbished or responsibly recycled, helping provide devices to low-income individuals and families in need. Drop off qualifying items at the Library's First Floor Service Desk during operating hours, and visit our website for a list of accepted items.

TEENS

Volunteer at the Library R
Students 8th – 12th Grade
Volunteer at Lake Bluff Public Library this summer—apply at **LakeBluffLibrary.org/TeenVolunteer** to get a calendar of opportunities.

Tween Crafts: Rainbow Scratch Art
6/11 at 4pm
Ages 9 – 14
Create your own colorful masterpiece with rainbow scratch art! Tweens will use special tools to scratch designs into black-coated paper and reveal vibrant rainbow patterns underneath.

Teen Silent Reading
6/17, 7/22, 8/12 at 2pm
Calling all teens—join fellow book lovers for our silent reading club! Bring your own book (physical, digital or audio with headphones) and enjoy the company of others without all the pressure! Feel free to stay after the hour is up for optional socialization.

Pokémon Club
6/18, 7/9, 8/13 at 4pm
Ages 8 – 18
Calling all Pokémon Trainers! Prepare for epic battles with the Pokémon Trading Card Game (TCG), take on exciting challenges, and power up your skills at the Library!

Family Bingo Night R
7/30 at 6pm
All Ages
Bring your family and friends to the Library for Bingo Night! We'll have fun prizes for all ages.

1,000 books before kindergarten

Ongoing | Ages 0 – 6
Support your child's early literacy and track their progress with our 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program. For more information about how to register, visit **LakeBluffLibrary.org/1000Books**.

SCAN ME!

Grab and Go Crafts
Fridays
While Supplies Last
Pop into the Library and grab a craft to go! Every week a new craft will be available.

Guess How Many
6/1 – 6/30
Ages 2 – 13
Guess how many items are in the jar at the Youth Services Desk for your chance to win a prize. You can submit one guess per day, so make it count!

LEGO Drop-In
6/3, 7/1, and 8/5
from 3pm – 5pm
Ages 6 – 11
Drop into the Youth Services Department and play with LEGO bricks!

Storytime on the Green
at the LB Farmers Market
6/5, 6/19, 7/10, 7/24, 8/7, and 8/21 at 9am
Ages 0 – 7
Find us at the Farmers Market on the green near the gazebo for a fun-filled storytime with the children's librarians! Storytime will be canceled in inclement weather.

Captain Curiosity:
The Carbon Conundrum
6/6 at 11am
Join Captain Curiosity on his greatest adventure yet as he sets out to save the planet with a little help from the carbon cycle. From towering mountains to deep within the earth's mantle, kids will discover how carbon moves between plants, animals, the ground, the seas, and the air, keeping our planet in balance for millions of years. With volcanic eruptions, prehistoric rivalries, and rebellious magma in his way, he'll need your help!

Chess Club R
6/15 and 7/20 at 3:30pm
Ages 6 – 12
Whether you are new to chess, or seeking to hone your techniques, Mark Hamilton will provide chess guidance to help you improve your game.

Summer Science R
6/16, 6/30, 7/14, and 7/28 at 11am
Ages 4 – 8
Join us for some fun, hands-on STEAM activities and messy experiments that kids will be sure to enjoy!

Pokémon Club
6/18, 7/9, 8/13
at 4pm | Ages 8 – 18
Calling all Pokémon Trainers! Prepare for epic battles with the Pokémon Trading Card Game (TCG), take on exciting challenges, and power up your skills at the Library!

R = Registration Required V = Virtual
All programs are in person at the Library unless otherwise stated.

Seek and Find
7/1 – 7/31
Ages 2 – 13
Search for hidden surprises all month long! Older kids can find the Hidden Book in the Youth Services Department, while younger kids can look for Bluey and her family in the Preschool Room. Tell staff at the Youth Services Desk what you found for a prize.

Miss Jamie's Farm
7/18 at 11am
Little kids love to dance, and the whole family can sing along with Miss Jamie! Bite-sized entertainment keeps kids moov-ing with singing and answering trivia, and her puppet farmyard friends come out for learning and laughs! The pig says oink, the cow says moo, Miss Jamie's sweet songs will have you singing and dancing, too! *Sponsored by the Friends of Lake Bluff Library.*

Family Bingo Night R
7/30 at 6pm
All Ages
Bring your family and friends to the Library for Bingo Night! We'll have fun prizes for all ages.

Messy Crafts
8/1 at 11am
Ages 2 – 12
Get ready for some messy fun at the Library, and we'll handle the clean up! Adult assistance is required for younger children.

Family Movie Night R

at Gorton Community Center
400 E. Illinois Rd., Lake Forest, IL
8/14 at 7pm
All Ages
The Lake Bluff Library is excited to partner once again with Gorton Community Center for a FREE screening of *Wreck-It Ralph*! Get ready for a night of arcade-sized fun, unlikely heroes, and saving the day in the most unexpected ways! *Sponsored by the Friends of Lake Bluff Library.*

Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

CONTACT US

PHONE: 847-234-2540
WEBSITE: LakeBluffLibrary.org
FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM, & YOUTUBE:
@LakeBluffPublicLibrary

ADMINISTRATION

Natalie Starosta, *Library Director*
nstarosta@lakeblufflibrary.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Alexandra Friedeman, *President*
Sandy Jardine, *Vice President*
Bonnie Shaul, *Treasurer*
Courtney Heck, *Secretary*
Joseph Kearney
Kathleen Reidy
Brian Sobolak

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held in person at the Library in the Spruth Room and streamed live on Zoom.

Tuesday, 6/16 at 7pm
Tuesday, 7/21 at 7pm
Tuesday, 8/18 at 7pm

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

The Friends is a non-profit organization that raises funds to support the Library.

UPCOMING FRIENDS MEETINGS

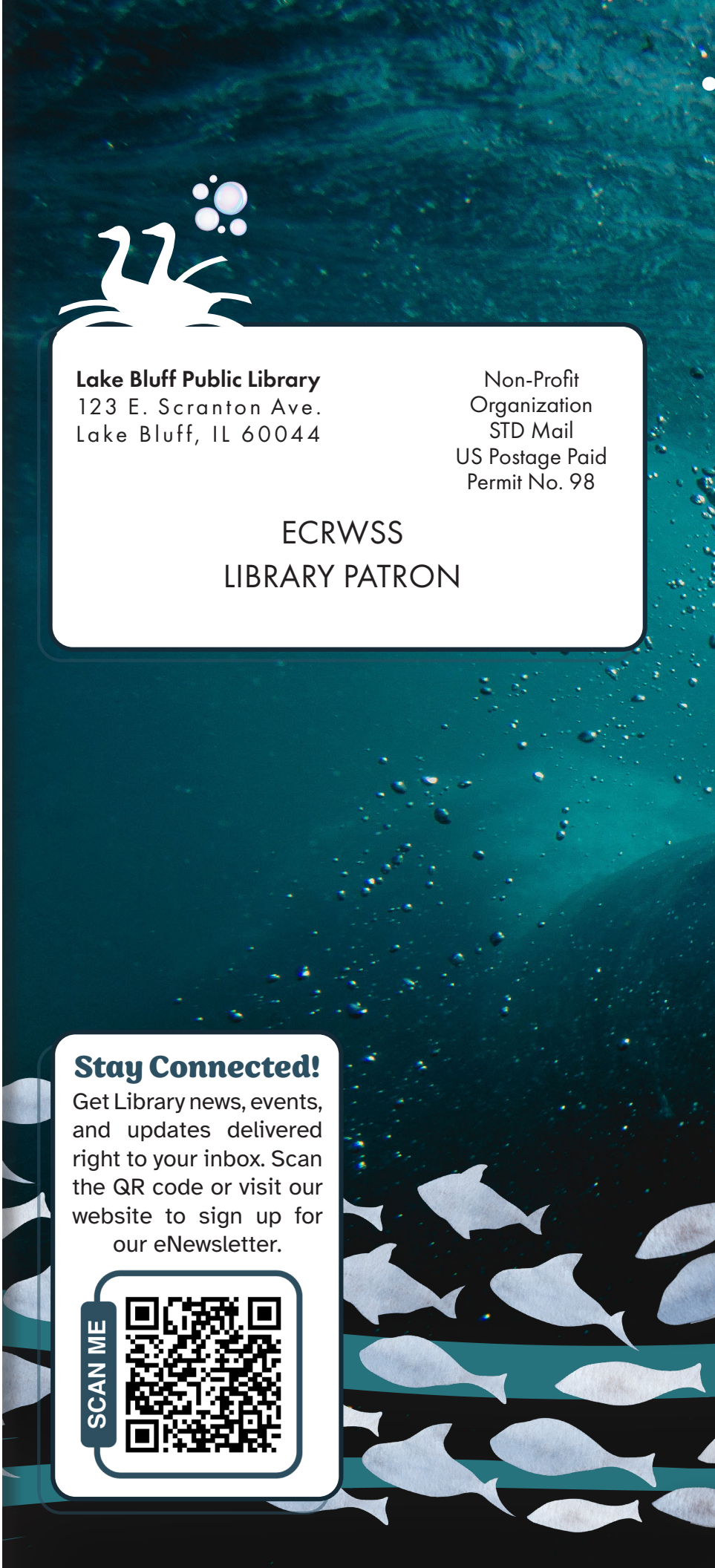
Saturday, 7/18 at 11am

STATEMENT ON PROGRAMMING

Library programs are free of charge and open to everyone unless otherwise noted. Library programs are presented to offer differing viewpoints and do not constitute an endorsement by the Library of the content of the program or of the views expressed by the attendees. View the full Library Programming Policy at **LakeBluffLibrary.org**.

PHOTO USE POLICY

The Lake Bluff Public Library reserves the right to use photos and/or audio/video recordings taken at the Library or at a Library-sponsored event for publicity purposes. Please see our Photo Use policy for more information.



Lake Bluff Public Library
123 E. Scranton Ave.
Lake Bluff, IL 60044

Non-Profit
Organization
STD Mail
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 98

ECRWSS
LIBRARY PATRON

Stay Connected!

Get Library news, events, and updates delivered right to your inbox. Scan the QR code or visit our website to sign up for our eNewsletter.

SCAN ME